

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01215 311830Z

70

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 IGA-02 INT-08 RSC-01 DRC-01

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /070 W

----- 023377

R 311511Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6270

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG LE

SUBJ: EVALUATION OF DAM PROJECT

REF: BEIRUT 763; STATE 237174; DEC 5, 73

SUMMARY: MIN OF HYDRAULIC RESOURCES ACCEPTS PROPOSAL
AS OUTLINED IN STATE 237174. ASKS, HOWEVER, IF
REQUIRED PAYMENT OF \$18,000 CANNOT BE MADE UPON COMPLETION
OF EXPERT'S VISIT. EXPORTS SHOULD ARRIVE FIRST
PART OF MAY, INSTEAD OF FEB. SOME KNOWLEDGE
OF FRENCH WOULD BE HELPFUL. FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT PROJECT NOTED.
END SUMMARY.

1. MIN OF HYDRAULIC RESOURCES SKAFF INFORMS EMBASSY
HE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTS PROPOSAL OUTLINED IN
STATE 237174. HE ASKS, HOWEVER, IF PAYMENT COULD BE
MADE UPON COMPLETION OF EXPERTS' STAY INSTEAD OF IN
ADVANCE. WHILE HIS MIN HAD ADEQUATE FUNDS TO COVER
COSTS, ADVANCE PAYMENT ACCORDING TO LAW WOULD REQUIRE A
SPECIAL DECISION BY THE LEBANESE CABINET, WHICH HE
WISHES TO AVOID FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

2. PRESENCE OF EXPERTS IN LEBANON WOULD BE REQUIRED
DURING THE PERIOD OF MAY 1 TO MAY 18. IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL IF ONE OF THE EXPERTS HAD SOME KNOWLEDGE OF FRENCH.

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3. FOLLOWING A FEASIBILITY STUDY PREPARED BY A TEAM

OF FAO EXPERTS, HYDRAULIC RESOURCES MIN ENTRUSTED
THE STUDY, IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION
OF THE PROJECT TO A QUALIFIED ITALIAN CONSULTING GROUP.
DURING PRESENT FIRST PHASE, CONSULTING GROUP IS PREPARING
A PRELIMINARY STUDY ON WHOLE PROJECT, INCLUDING 75 METER HIGH DAM.

4. POSSIBILITY OF EARTH DAM NOT ENVISAGED FOR LACK OF
SUITABLE MATERIALS IN NEIGHBORHOOD AND BECAUSE OF
GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS AT DAM SITE. POSSIBILITIES THUS
LIMITED TO CONCRETE DAM OR ROCK-FILLED DAM. DOCUMENTATION
ON TWO ALTERNATIVES WILL BE REVIEWED IN A COMPARATIVE
DISCUSSION ON MAY 1 AND IT IS AT THIS TIME THAT BUREC
EXPERTS' PRESENCE DESIRED, ONE QUALIFIED FOR ROCK-FILLED
DAMS AND ONE FOR CONCRETE DAMS.
HOUGHTON

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: ENRG, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005